

# STOMP ST. MARY'S

# GREYHOUND

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# Feudin' Starts Tomorrow

By STEVE GAVIN

Even the legendary Hatfields and McCoys scamper for shelter when the biggest basketball shooting war in these 'yar parts — Loyola vs. Mt. St. Mary's — starts blazing away on the Evergreen boards tomorrow night. The first shot will be fired at 8:45.

A capacity throng is expected to gather at the battlefield and lend vocal support to this annual hoop explosion which, as usual, is the focal point of the 1956-57 Mason-Dixon Conference dribble derby.

For it's the cagey Mountaineers versus the local city b'hoys again this winter for the Conference title and it's these two occasions when the battle comes out into the open — tomorrow night at Evergreen and February 9 at Mt. St. Mary's — which will undoubtedly determine the '56-'57 kingpin.

Last year, Loyola hogged the title roost by swatting the Saints, 73-72, before the home folks, and 73-67, on its annual safari to the hill country. But the Mount got even, flogging the Hounds, 107-86, to bag its third straight Tournament title and equal the all-time standard for straight successes in the post-season shenanigans.

And as usual, the Mountaineers' main line of attack is spelled S-U-L-L-I-V-A-N. Redoubtable Jack, the string-bean scoring phenom, is zeroing in on a lifetime total of 2,000 markers and hopes to eventually surpass the state career mark of 2,154, held by Loyola's Jim Lacy.

Oddly enough, even though Sully holds six M-D tourney marks and is on the verge of becoming the first player to be named to the All-Conference team for four straight years, he's never led the loop in scoring. He just missed winning the title last year when shackled by a sprained wrist for part of the campaign. However this season he's off to a roaring scoring start, which, we assume, is intended to be prophetic.

In seven starts this season, Sullivan has rammed through 221 points, including a Quantico Tourney single game mark of 43 against Belmont Abbey, for a bell-ringing 31.6 average.

Besides the sensational Sully, the Mountaineer bucket brigade will likely be manned by clever Bert

Sheing and frosh Jack Gunn in the rear court with Bill Williams and Jerry Bohlinger underneath.

It's no secret that coach Jim Phelan hasn't been too happy with the work of Williams and Bohlinger off the boards. He has threatened to sub highly-touted freshman Jack Halleron, Tom Leonard and Jack Marshall for any of the Saints' fading flippers. Leonard and Marshall are unseasoned sophys, however, and Phelan has no guarantee how they'll go under fire.

**LOYOLA'S BASKETBALL** boardcombers, Jim Staiti, George Leyh, and Denny McGuire, stack up almost even with the Saint rebounders in height, and have been providing coach Lefty Reitz with capable work underneath.

Reitz couldn't be blamed if he used the 'pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey' method of picking a starting lineup for, as he says, "we've got two good teams." And therein may lie the tale (no pun intended) as regards the Mason-Dixon championship.

If it's a matter of depth, suh, Loyola is the team that has it. So, says the swami, a running game would probably benefit the Hounds while the Mounties would most likely prefer to work for their shots.

Besides the rebounding corps, Reitz is banking on seniors Paul Dodd, Harp Fitzgerald, Gene Grimes, Jack Benzing, and Earl Hamper, to go with juniors Jerry Komin, Jack Cummings, and Joe Watkins to help the Hounds bolster their blue chip stock by sacking the Saints.

Thus far, Dodd, with an average of 12.8, Staiti (11.4), Grimes (11.2), Hamper (9.4), Leyh (8.2), McGuire (7.8) and Komin (7.8) have lifted the Loyolans to a 3-2 record.

There's no individual star on this year's Greyhound quint but it's a solid club with no glaring weakness and it could go all the way. It'll be close, however, with polish on St. Mary's side and depth in the Hounds' corner.

That's how the cards are stacked, then, for the first draw tomorrow night.



Jim Staiti

Jack Sullivan

## ROLL OF CHAMPIONS

Here are the basketball champions of the Mason-Dixon Conference:

| League         | Year    |
|----------------|---------|
| Loyola         | 1955-56 |
| Mt. St. Mary's | 1954-55 |
| Roanoke        | 1953-54 |
| Roanoke        | 1952-53 |
| Loyola         | 1951-52 |
| Mt. St. Mary's | 1950-51 |
| American       | 1949-50 |
| Hampden-Sydney | 1948-49 |
| Loyola         | 1947-48 |
| Loyola         | 1946-47 |
| American       | 1945-46 |
| American       | 1944-45 |
| Catholic       | 1943-44 |
| Washington     | 1942-43 |
| Loyola         | 1941-42 |
| Loyola         | 1940-41 |

## Loyola, Saints Best of M-D Class

★ ★ ★  
By STEVE GAVIN

Tournament  
Mt. St. Mary's  
Mt. St. Mary's  
Mt. St. Mary's  
Loyola  
Baltimore  
American  
American

Loyola  
Loyola  
Loyola  
American  
American  
Mt. St. Mary's  
Gallaudet  
Loyola  
W. Maryland

Among my Christmas gifts was a second-hand, slightly-frayed crystal ball (valued at \$2.98 and previously used by a slightly-frayed Brooklyn Dodger fan).

Naturally, I'm looking for the first opportunity to use it and this, mates, is it.

So hand me my turban and I'll peer deep into the yawning abyss and see if I can concoct a vision as to how the 1956-57 Mason-Dixon Conference basketball race will go.

It looks, fair Macbeth, like Loyola and Mt. St. Mary's will hammer it out for the brass ring. And for my money (which is 100% Confederate currency) it'll be Loyola at the wire with St. Mary's holding the bridesmaid's bouquet, or bag, if you don't choose to be poetic.

According to the rules of the soothsayer's union, I'm supposed to furnish reasons for these prognostications and so here they are:

It's depth and rebounding wherein Loyola outshines the Mountaineers. Despite the sensa-

tional Sully, the Mounties will need a lot of basketball from their freshmen and sophomores to match their record of the past two years.

Coach Jim Phelan is still searching for a big man to fill the pivot and help out on the backboards. If Jerry Bohlinger and

Bill Williams, who've been disappointing so far, can come around and start snapping up the stray shots, the Saints could float in again.

That, says the soothsayer's union, is known as an "escape clause" and means, in effect, that (continued on page 4, col. 3)

## LATE LINE ON RACE

| Team             | Comment                  | Odds |
|------------------|--------------------------|------|
| LOYOLA           | Gets nod in close race   | 9-5  |
| MT. ST. MARY'S   | The one to beat          | 2-1  |
| ROANOKE          | Should hold off rest     | 4-1  |
| CATHOLIC         | Has money chance         | 9-2  |
| HOPKINS          | Could be troublesome     | 6-1  |
| BALTIMORE        | Chance on top stuff      | 8-1  |
| HAMPDEN-SYDNEY   | Opposition tough         | 10-1 |
| AMERICAN         | Can't run with leaders   | 10-1 |
| WASHINGTON       | Needs seasoning          | 12-1 |
| BRIDGEWATER      | Improved; but not enough | 15-1 |
| TOWSON STATE     | Game; may be heard from  | 15-1 |
| RANDOLPH-MACON   | Must show more           | 20-1 |
| LYNCHBURG        | Still Rebuilding         | 20-1 |
| WESTERN MARYLAND | Two years away           | 20-1 |

## SEASON'S RECORDS

### MT. ST. MARY'S

|     | MT. ST. MARY'S      | LOYOLA                   |
|-----|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 84  | St. Vincent's (Pa.) | 88                       |
| 77  | Steubenville        | 91                       |
| 72  | St. Francis (Pa.)   | 87                       |
| 77  | Hofstra             | 68                       |
| 93  | Moravian            | 75                       |
| 103 | Belmont Abbey       | 81                       |
| 69  | Quantico            | 84                       |
|     |                     | 79 St. Peter's           |
|     |                     | 83 Hofstra               |
|     |                     | 90 Wagner                |
|     |                     | 68 Seton Hall            |
|     |                     | 74 Ohio Wesleyan         |
|     |                     | Jan. 3 — At Baltimore U. |
|     |                     | 85                       |
|     |                     | 60                       |
|     |                     | 69                       |
|     |                     | 83                       |
|     |                     | 65                       |

# We Ain't No Saints, So We Must Be Sinners . . .

**Cheerleader Can Leap Mountains**



Sam Donohue

## IN THE BACKCOURT



▲ PAUL DODD rises to occasion as Gene Grimes watches.

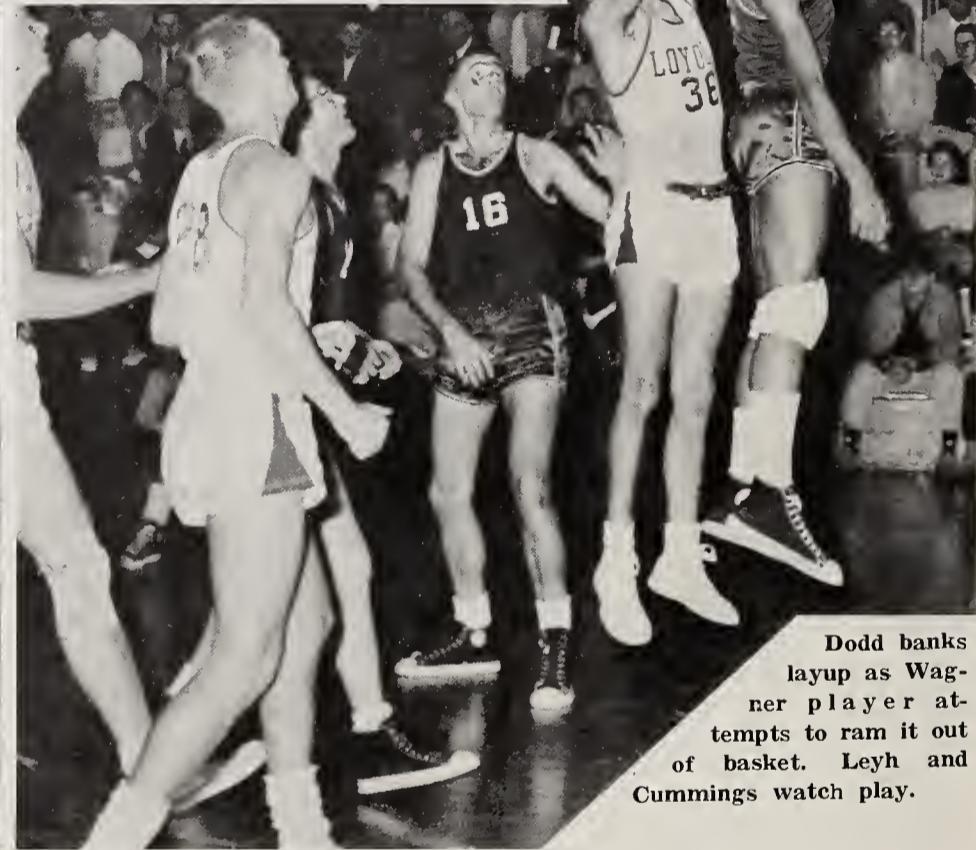
► Grimes fakes shot and curls pass to Denny McGuire as player (5) guarding McGuire looks for "rebound."



Jerry Komin stops pass.



Gene Grimes bounces upcourt.



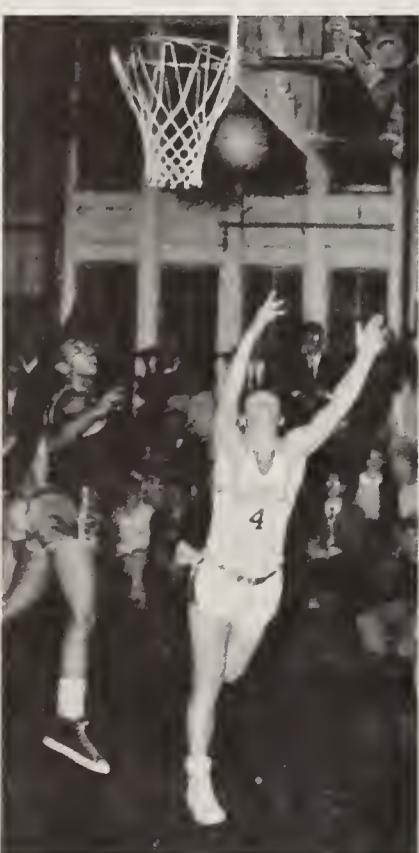
**Different Hat But Same Bell**



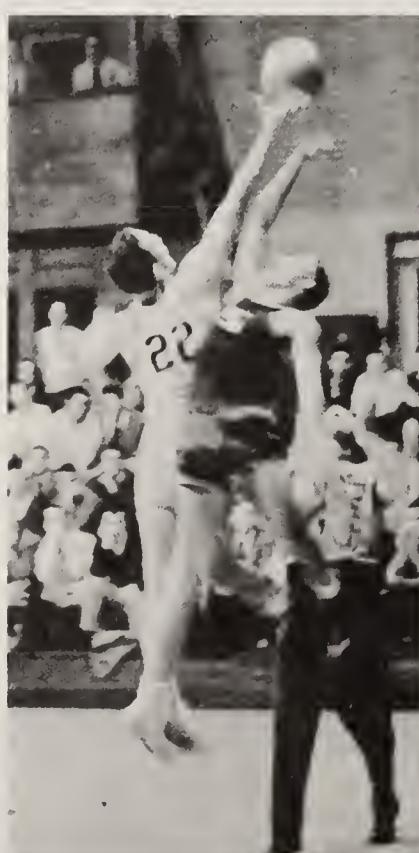
Mr. Joseph Cerra, of the Slater System, has all the 'Hounds conditioned to run, run, run when they hear his victory bell from the "Ding Dong School." He is one of the team's heartiest rooters.



Benzing Bombs



Hamper Hoops



Fitz Foils Foe



Cummings Connects



Benzing Booms

## ONWARD AND UPWARD

# But When The Game Ends, We'll Be Winners



**L**  
Diana Pomory

**O**  
Joan Jackson

**Y**  
Jane Gunn

**O**  
Joanne Clark

**L**  
Phyllis Schimunek

**A**  
Jeanne Dougherty



◀ HE SLAPPED the Ball, said the referee, and called a technical to prove it when Gene Grimes protested. The technical and a field goal on the throw-in shrunk Loyola's lead to 56-53.



Bert Sheing  
HAS 21.3 AVERAGE



LOYOLA'S AAA cheering section, organized by the sophomore class, opens up at the Wagner game.



Jerry Bohlinger  
TALLEST MOUNT AT 6' 6"

# Reitz & Phelan Have Solid Grounding In Game

## LEFTY NEARS 300TH VICTORY

Emil G. (just call me "Lefty") Reitz is now in his nineteenth year as coach of the Loyola College basketball team.

The Frederick, Md., native has herded the Hounds to six Mason-Dixon Conference titles and five M-D tourney crowns for the best record of any team in the loop's sixteen-year history. He also has, on six occasions, piloted his teams into national post-season tournament competition.

All told, his clubs have won a total of 291 games, against 172 losses for an amazing .629 percentage.

After graduation from Villanova College in 1933 and a brief fling in professional baseball, "Lefty" took over the head coaching job at Loyola in 1937. A year later, he was promoted to athletic director, a position which he holds today.

A basketball great at both Loyola High and Calvert Hall, he once was credited with a spring-training victory over the Philadelphia Phillies.



Coach Lefty Reitz instructs Benzing and Leyh.

## PHELAN PLAYED FOR PAY

James J. Phelan, who in two years has compiled a phenomenal 41-11 won-lost record at Mt. St. Mary's, is the only Mason-Dixon Conference basketball coach to have played in the National Basketball Association.

A student of Ken Loeffler, the great former LaSalle College coach, Phelan piloted the Explorer freshman team before being named the St. Mary's coach in 1954.

The curly-haired ex-Marine lieutenant compiled a brilliant playing record with LaSalle and the Quantico Marines, and also played four games with the 1953-54 Philadelphia Warriors before being lured back to LaSalle as Loeffler's aide.

Phelan received prior coaching background under Obie O'Brien at LaSalle High in Philadelphia and as assistant coach at Quantico, where he led the team to the all-Marine finals and was named the tourney's MVP.

## Running With The Hounds

### Tournament Invitation Could Depend On Game

BY DAVE BRYAN, SPORTS EDITOR

It seems strange that so soon after the holiday season which proclaims "peace on earth" there should occur a game of basketball which would arouse such intense feeling as to approach "un-gentlemanly conduct."

And as if the natural rivalry between these two long time court foes were not enough, a new log has been cast on the fire with the announcement, by the NCAA, that the Mason-Dixon team considered the best during the regular season will have the opportunity to participate in a post season tournament.

The M-D entry to this affair has the opportunity, at last, to show the basketball world the caliber of play in this conference, even if this caliber is upheld by only four or five of the top teams.

#### ANALYSIS

## Why Saints Have Won

BY BERNIE RACKMALES

Mount Saint Mary's has defeated Loyola in the finals of the last three tournaments because the Mounts had a better organized

**PSST!** cheering section. Get Once they didn't. Your On January 22, 1955, Sullivan, Angelo and Bals Book moved to a 47-31 Or Pay! halftime bulge over Loyola's inexperienced sophomores.

But the Mount rooters had stayed up in the hills because of exams. Moreover, Loyola had Jerry Frese, Dave Greenwood and others acting as cheerleaders.

So Jerry Kemin opened the half with five straight driving layups, Harp Fitzgerald bullseyed three overhead sets, and Gene Grimes put the Hounds in front to win with a push shot from behind the foul circle.

But that was the last time Loyola had cheerleaders until the sophomores organized the AAA this season. If they can find a song to equal "When the Saints Come Marching In" and spread their cheering to the entire student body, Loyola will stop the Mount consistently.

#### MOST IMPROVED

Loyola has a chance to display its chief improvement — the spirit of the student body.

A motorcade, with police escort and band, has been arranged for the Hopkins game. Sign up with your class representative.